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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 WARSAW 000467

SIPDIS

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SUBJECT: POLAND - CODEL LEVIN DISCUSSES MISSILE DEFENSE,
PATRIOTS

REF: WARSAW 375

Classified By: Ambassador Ashe for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

1. (C) SUMMARY: In meetings with CODEL Levin, the Polish Prime Minister's chief of staff, the President's deputy national security advisor, and
2. (C) Senator Carl Levin (D-MI), Senator Bill Nelson (D-FL), and Senator Susan Collins (R-ME), visited Warsaw April 15-16 to discuss Missile U.S. "ROCK SOLID" ON ARTICLE FIVE
3. (C) Senator Levin began all three meetings by conveying the President's message that the U.S. commitment to the NATO Article 5 guarantee is PATRIOTS AND AMERICAN BOOTS
4. (C) Senator Levin warned all three interlocutors that if the Czechs reject the proposed MD radar site, the Polish component of MD would be
5. (C) Asked whether Poland would be reassured by the presence of Patriot batteries in lieu of MD, Nowak told CODEL Levin that, regardless of
6. (C) Waszczykowski was less adamant about Patriots, stating that Poland and the U.S. had a binding political agreement on security matters,
7. (C) Speaker Komorowski and Nowak both pointed out that, by agreeing to host the MD site, Poland had paid a "high price" -- especially in its anti-Polish sentiment among Russians, and are acting against Poland's interests in Ukraine.
8. (C) Komorowski argued that the U.S. needs to fulfill its symbolic agreement to show involvement in defense of Polish territory. If the new DIALOGUE WITH RUSSIA
9. (C) Komorowski, Nowak, and Waszczykowski stressed the importance of keeping Poland updated on the status of U.S.-Russia talks. Nowak stressed
10. (C) Nowak said Poland had not discussed Patriots with the Russians. Russia should not have a say in Poland's defense modernization plan
11. (C) Presidential Advisor Waszczykowski reacted more emotionally. While Washington is entitled to talk to Russia, to work toward a solution THREAT FROM IRAN?
12. (C) In all three meetings, Senator Nelson expressed doubt that Iran would abandon its nuclear weapons or missile programs, but noted that
13. (C) Nowak and Komorowski told the CODEL that Poland does not perceive a direct threat from Iran. Nowak stated that, as an active and loyal
14. (U) CODEL Levin has cleared this message.

ASHE